



The last Dying Speech and Confession ; Birth, Parentage, and Education, of the Two Unfortunate

MALEFACTORS,

Executed this Day before the Debtor's Door, Newgate.



ON Friday last the Recorder made his report of the Prisoners in Newgate, who were condemned at the last Sessions, when the following remarkable characters were ordered to execution this day (Wednesday.)

Henry Weston was indicted for having on the 21st January 1796, fraudulently forged, made, and counterfeited, a letter of attorney, in the name of Lieutenant-General Patrick Tonyn, of Park-street, Grosvenor-square, with intent to defraud the Governors of the Bank of England, contrary to the act in that case made and provided.

John Roberts alias Colin Reculist, who was in January last convicted of forgery, but an objection in point of law then taking place, his case was left for the opinion of the Judges, which objection not being a legal one, he was then ordered to remain on his conviction, and received sentence accordingly.

Henry Weston is but 23 years of age, and was born in the city of Dublin, in Ireland, of very reputable parents, who are now living to deplore his unhappy condition.

He was a very elegant and handsome young man, wore a suit of black, and had his hair very handsomely dressed.

He attended the fatal scaffold with fortitude, at the same time offering up his prayers to the Almighty.

John Roberts was a young man, born of honest parents, whose mother is now living at York.

He behaved very penitent during the whole of his confinement.

MR. WESTON'S SPEECH.

My Lord,

I bear the sentence now pronounced against me with a calmness and resignation which, I am happy to find, enables me to deliver a few observations to the Court. At this melancholy moment I call upon all young persons who are witnesses to this Trial, and who may be in circumstances similar to those in which I was unfortunately

placed, to avail themselves of the awful example which I now exhibit: and to those more advanced in years, let it operate as a caution against placing too much confidence in youth and inexperience. My appearance, my Lord, is a sufficient indication that I am, as yet, but a very young man, and when I first engaged in business I was of course proportionably younger, and unacquainted in some degree with the consequences of that conduct which now places me here. The misfortunes of my short but unhappy life arose from too much precipitation in myself, and the want of attention in those who had a controul upon my conduct.

The night before they suffered, the bellman came into the press-yard, at 9 o'clock, and after ringing the bell, pronounced the admonition verses, reminding them of their dreadful situation, and exhorting them to watch and pray, that they might obtain forgiveness for their sins.

The fatal day being come on which they were to undergo their dreadful sentence, at 5 o'clock the doors of their cells were unlocked, and they soon after went up to the chapel, where they joined in prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, and then received the sacrament.

They were then summoned to their fate, and came down into the press-yard, where their irons were knocked off; they were then haltered, and brought upon the scaffold, when the executioner having tied them up, the Ordinary prayed with them for some time, and then took his leave; the caps were pulled over their eyes, the sheriff gave a signal, when the scaffold sunk down, and they were launched into everlasting happiness or misery.

After hanging the usual time, their bodies were cut down, and delivered to their friends for interment.

The concourse of people to witness this melancholy occasion was very numerous; the Old Bailey was crowded long before the execution; the uniformed officers were brought forth, and they appeared much affected by the dreadful scene then before them.